

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 03503 160932Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 MCT-01 ACDA-07
/097 W

-----086578 161102Z /20

R 160830Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8089
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PEKING
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SF
SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICA ANNOUNCES NEW ANTI-TERRORIST
BORDER CAMPAIGN

REF: JOHANNESBURG 1506 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY: THE SAG ANNOUNCED JULY 13 THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN
POLICE ARE BEING USED IN LARGE NUMBERS IN A NEW EXTENSIVE
BORDER CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT TERRORIST INFILTRATION AND CHECK
THE OUTFLOW OF BLACKS LEAVING FOR TERRORIST TRAINING. THE
CAMPAIGN, WHICH BEGAN A FEW WEEKS AGO, ALLEGEDLY HAS ALREADY
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RESULTED IN THE CAPTURE OF EIGHT ANC-TRAINED TERRORISTS.
END SUMMARY.

2. MAJOR GENERAL DAWID KRIEL, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
IN CHARGE OF RIOT CONTROL ANNOUNCED JULY 13 THAT HE IS IN
COMMAND OF A LARGE-SCALE POLICE CAMPAIGN ON SOUTH AFRICA'S
BORDERS WITH RHODESIA, BOTSWANA, SWAZILAND, AND MOZAMBIQUE TO

PREVENT TERRORIST INFILTRATION AND CHECK THE OUTFLOW OF BLACKS LEAVING THE COUNTRY FOR TERRORIST TRAINING. THE CAMPAIGN, WHICH BEGAN SOME WEEKS AGO, ENTAILS POLICE BEING ASSIGNED BORDER DUTY FOR UP TO THREE MONTHS AS REINFORCEMENTS AT POLICE BORDER POSTS. FROM THESE POSTS THE POLICE LAUNCH EXTENSIVE PATROLS ALONG "EVERY INCH OF THE BORDER" IN SEARCH OF INCOMING OR OUTGOING TERRORISTS. KRIEL SAID THE POLICE HAD HAD NINE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN SUCH ACTIVITIES, SOME OF IT GAINED WHEN THEY REINFORCED RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCES IN THE ZAMBEZI VALLEY.

3. THE INTENSIFICATION OF POLICE PATROLS IS REPORTEDLY A PRODUCT OF SAG'S FEAR THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF BLACK YOUNTHS WHO FLED THE COUNTRY AFTER THE 1976 DISTURBANCES ARE BEING TRAINED BY THE ANC AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS TO BE URBAN TERRORISTS AND HAVE BEGUN A LARGE-SCALE INFILTRATION.

4. PRESS REPORTS OF THE CAMPAIGN SAID IT HAD ALREADY HAD A NUMBER OF SUCCESSES, INCLUDING THE CAPTURE OF AT LEAST EIGHT "ANGOLA-TRAINED" TERRORISTS EQUIPPED WITH RUSSIAN-MADE WEAPONS, FIVE OF WHOM WERE INVOLVED IN THE TERRORIST INCIDENT IN JOHANNESBURG IN WHICH TWO WHITES WERE KILLED (REFTEL)

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH KRIEL WOULD NOT REVEAL HOW MANY POLICE INVOLVED IN THIS OPERATION, IT WOULD HAVE TO BE A LARGE NUMBER TO COVER SOUTH AFRICA'S APPROXIMATELY 2000 KILOMETERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF NORTHERN BORDER. WE ARE UNSURE IF THE SAG WILL FIND IT NECESSARY TO HIRE AN EQUAL NUMBER OF POLICE TO REPLACE THOSE ON THE BORDER, THUS ADDING ANOTHER BURDEN TO THE WEAKENED ECONOMY. BUT IT CLEARLY FEELS THAT AN IMPORTANT TERRORIST THREAT EXISTS AND MUST BE COUNTERED BEFORE IT GETS OUT OF CONTROL.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PRETOR03503
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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